

Year 4 Reading and Writing Task

Discussion texts use causal and contrasting conjunctions to present causes and effects and to compare arguments. Today's task will help you to understand what causal and contrasting conjunctions are and how to use them.

Writing tasks!

Activity 1 - Causal Conjunctions

These words link a cause with its effect e.g. The sun was shining **therefore** the ice cream melted.

→ Add the causal conjunctions to these sentences:

Conjunctions	
Causal (Links Causes & Effects)	Contrasting (Links Positives & Negatives) (Comparing Different Points)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• as a result• because• consequently• due to the fact• for this reason• therefore	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• although• but• even though• however• on the other hand• whereas

- The plant was not given enough water _____ it died.
- The plant died _____ it was not given enough water.
- I love coming to school _____ I really like my teacher.
- I really like my teacher _____ I love coming to school.
- Emily apologised _____ she had hurt Heidi's feelings.
- Emily had hurt Heidi's feelings _____ she apologised.

Activity 2 - Contrasting Conjunctions

These words link a positive clause with a negative clause e.g. The sun was shining **however** I had forgotten my sunglasses.

→ Add the contrasting conjunctions to these sentences:

- I played on my X Box _____ I had homework to do.
- I really wanted an ice cream _____ it was winter.

c. The dog sniffed the food _____ he didn't eat it.

d. _____ the dog sniffed the food, he didn't eat it.

→ Now write sentences a, b and c into your book putting the contrasting conjunction at the **start** of each sentence.

Challenge!

Make a poster to explain either casual conjunctions or contrasting conjunctions.

Reading task!

Read the text below. Underline the causal conjunctions in red and the contrasting conjunctions in blue.

Recycling - It's Not Easy Being Green

Reduce, reuse, and recycle. Everyday we are told that we need to take more care of our planet, however it's not easy being green - or is it?



Local councils are trying to make it easier for people to recycle. They have started to give people different colour bins for the different recycled items, although this is only in some towns. The bins have pictures on them therefore making them simple and easy to use. People with these special bins are now finding recycling easy but many are still struggling without them and are consequently giving up and just throwing everything away. This cannot happen!

Some people have said that recycling takes up too much of their time. Some spend the extra few minutes separating their rubbish to be recycled whereas most people complain that this takes too much time. They don't stop to think



about what happens to their rubbish when it goes to the dump even though this problem is widely reported in the news. What will happen in 20 years when our rubbish dumps are full?

On the other hand, people also use the excuse that one person doesn't make a difference. They say that one person's rubbish won't matter if everyone else recycles, however if everyone had that thought then nothing would get done! Even though it might seem like a small act, every item that is recycled takes us one step closer to saving the planet.

Recycling is not that hard when you think about it. Although many people don't know it, most things we use can be recycled. It makes sense to do everything we can to help save the planet and its animals. Green is definitely the best colour of all.